Listing of Claims

1-26. (canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing the susceptibility of a cell to DNA-damaging agents, comprising introducing into the cell an antisense oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes to a nucleic acid encoding human Ku70 so as to prevent expression thereof; wherein (a) the antisense oligonucleotide introduced into the cell is in an amount sufficient to increase the sensitivity of the cell to heat, chemical, or radiation-induced DNA damage, ~~and~~ (b) the antisense oligonucleotide is introduced into the cell via an adenoviral vector comprising an expression vector encoding the antisense oligonucleotide under the control of a heat shock promoter, and (c) the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence of a human Ku70 cDNA in the antisense orientation.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a tumor in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an antisense oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes to a nucleic acid encoding human Ku70 so as to prevent expression thereof; wherein (a) the antisense oligonucleotide is administered in an amount sufficient to increase the sensitivity of the tumor to heat, chemical or radiation-induced DNA damage, ~~and~~

(b) the antisense oligonucleotide is introduced into the subject via an adenoviral vector comprising an expression vector encoding the antisense oligonucleotide under the control of a heat shock promoter, and (c) the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence of a human Ku70 cDNA in the antisense orientation.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising administering to the subject one or more DNA-damaging agents.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the DNA-damaging agent is selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of adriamycin, bleomycin and etoposide.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the DNA-damaging agent is ionizing radiation.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the DNA-damaging agent induces double strand breaks.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for treating cancer in a subject, comprising introducing into the subject an expression vector encoding an antisense oligonucleotide, under the control of a heat shock promoter, that specifically hybridizes to a nucleic

acid encoding human Ku70 so as to prevent expression thereof, and inducing expression of the antisense oligonucleotide, wherein (a) the antisense oligonucleotide is expressed in the subject's cancer cells in an amount sufficient to increase the sensitivity of those cells to heat, chemical, or ionizing radiation-induced DNA damage, ~~and~~ (b) the expression vector is in the form of an adenovirus, and (c) the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence of a human Ku70 cDNA in the antisense orientation.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 ~~32~~, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is introduced selectively at sites of cancer.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 ~~32~~, further comprising directing heat, ionizing radiation, or chemotherapy at a site of cancer.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 ~~32~~, further comprising applying electric field energy to a site of cancer.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the electric field energy comprises radiofrequency radiation.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 ~~32~~, further

comprising implanting a reservoir of one or more chemotherapeutic agents near a site of cancer, wherein the chemotherapeutic agents are releasable over a period of time of at least eight hours.

39. (Currently Amended) An expression vector encoding an antisense oligonucleotide, under the control of a heat shock promoter, that specifically hybridizes to a nucleic acid encoding human Ku70, so as to prevent expression thereof, wherein the expression vector is in the form of an adenovirus and wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence of a human Ku70 cDNA in the antisense orientation.

40. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the expression vector of claim 39 and a carrier.